

# [Method to enable a Homeland Security "heartbeat"]

## Abstract

Apply TCP/IP's universal "heartbeat" mechanism to provide a ubiquitous timing function to gather data from and send data to platforms of interest by way of Internet Protocol (IP) multicast groups via routers. Configure multi-cast groups / router MIBS (management information base) via commercial vice military tools located in commercial developmental frameworks tool interface layers vice using separate and standalone proprietary, GOTS (Government Off the Shelf) tools. Use intrinsic TCP/IP's heartbeat mechanism's send to / gather from functions to place harvested data into commercial framework's queue/object stores for processing/onward distribution via intelligent agents & new transport protocols such as SSTP (Simple Symmetric Transport Protocol) vice old, inflexible military type protocols such as the Variable Message Format (VMF).